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in May, I repeated the questions. Therefore, it would be necessary, Mr. President, that Government should prepare a list like this every month and publish it in the newspapers so that the common man might understand what controls are in force.''

Mr. PRESIDENT :—'' I think the answer is dated 27th November 1948.''

Sri B. BHIMA RAO :—'' In July, Government issued a Press Communiqué showing the controls then in force. But, now I find from the list that the number of controls has increased. Therefore, in the interests of the common man, the advocate and Judge who should know what controls are in force, it is expedient that Government should publish such a list every month in the *Madras Information* and also in the Madras Dailies.''

The Hon. Dr. T. S. S. RAJAN :—'' Government will consider the question when it is absolutely necessary. As far as the information about controls is concerned, I am sure that the magistracy and the judicial authorities are perfectly cognizant of the orders which the Government are issuing from time to time.''

Sri B. BHIMA RAO :—'' I do not know whether the Hon. Minister is correct in his statement. Because I know there have been convictions even though some controls have been abolished long long ago. Therefore, Government have to bring to the notice of the prosecuting authorities as well as to the common man what control orders are in force from time to time? ''

The Hon. Dr. T. S. S. RAJAN.—'' I have already answered that the matter will be considered and if there are sufficient reasons, Government will publish the necessary information.''

The price of white sugar.

* 161 *Q.*—Sri B. BHIMA RAO : Will the Hon. the Minister for Food be pleased to state—

(*a*) what the price of white sugar per ton was during the control period up to 8th December 1947;

(*b*) whether the price was increased subsequently, and if so, to what amount and by whom and for what reasons; and

(*c*) whether the Government have made any enquiry as to who is deriving the benefit of the enhanced prices—the management or shareholders or the money-lenders or the actual cultivators; and what ratio of benefit is got by each class?

The Hon. Dr. T. S. S. RAJAN :—'' (*a*) & (*b*) It is not quite clear as to whether the hon. Member requires the price of sugar per ton in all the important markets of the Province during the control period or in the City of Madras only. However, as the Madras City is the chief marketing centre for sugar, the price of sugar which ruled in the city might be taken as a fair index of the sugar prices in other centres also

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which followed the Madras price with slight variations due to the varying transport charges that were paid for transporting the sugar from the supplying centres to the consuming areas. The wholesale price of sugar in the Madras City during the control period up to 8th December 1947 varied from Rs. 342 in July 1947 to Rs. 643 per ton in November 1947. After de-control, the price of sugar fluctuated and after reaching a maximum of Rs. 1,187 per ton in February 1948 has been falling down with slight fluctuations. The fluctuations in the price were entirely due to the market conditions and the increase in price is attributed to the increased cost of cultivation of sugarcane and the high prices that had to be paid to the sugarcane growers by the factories.

" (c) No. The Government will, however, make the necessary enquiry referred to in this clause, if a need arises therefor."

3-15 p.m. SRI B. BHIMA RAO :—" May I know when the Government propose to make the enquiry because it will be necessary to have proper data for fixing the minimum price of sugarcane?"

THE HON. DR. T. S. S. RAJAN :—" The Government have already fixed the cane prices. I do not think the Government feel any necessity to alter the prices."

Alleged statement made by Hon. the Minister for Firka Development.

* 162 Q.—SRI S. B. ADITYAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Public Works be pleased to state—

(a) whether the Government are aware of a news-item in " The Mail ", dated 15th November 1948, wherein the Hon. the Minister for Firka Development is reported to have stated " The Government and its machinery had become expensive organizations; to dig a well of 6 feet width and 30 feet depth costs only Rs. 600 for a private individual whereas the P.W.D. authorities estimate it at Rs. 3,000 ";

(b) whether the report is correct, and if so, whether the Government have taken any steps to reduce the expense of Government organizations; and

(c) if the report is not correct, what is the correct version of the speech?

THE HON. SRI M. BHAKTAVATSALAM :—" (a) The answer is in the affirmative.

" (b) Yes. The Hon. Minister expressed only his personal opinion on the matter.

" (c) Does not arise."

SRI R. SURYANARAYANA RAO :—" Is it fair, Sir, to the Government that individual Ministers should go on expressing their personal opinions which may cast reflections on the working of the departments under their Colleagues? "